Case:17-03283-LTS Doc#:21447 Filed:07/06/22 Entered:07/06/22 15:08:43 Desc: Main Document Page 1 of 13

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

In re:

PROMESA

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,

Title III

as representative of

No. 17-bk-3283-LTS

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO

RICO, et al.,

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.

SUMMARY SHEET

FIFTEENTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF ANDREW WOLFE, MACROECONOMIC CONSULTANT TO THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES, FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2022-MARCH 15, 2022

Applicant: Andrew Wolfe

Authorized to provide services to:

The Financial Oversight and Management

Board for Puerto Rico

Effective date of retention: August 1, 2017

Compensation period: February 1, 2022-March 15, 2022

Compensation requested: \$4,410

Expenses requested: \$535

Total requested: \$4,945

This is a: monthly \underline{X} interim final application

SUMMARY OF TIME RECORDED IN COMPENSATION PERIOD

Name	Title	Hours Recorded	Hourly Rate	Total Fees		
Andrew Wolfe	Macroeconomic Consultant	14.7	\$300	\$4,410		

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES INCURRED IN COMPENSATION PERIOD

Category	Amount
Legal Fees	\$495
Other (Data Purchase)	\$40

Total: \$535

PRIOR INTERIM FEE APPLICATIONS

Period	Date	Fees	Expenses	Order	Fees	Expenses	
Covered Filed		Requested	Requested	Entered	Allowed	Allowed	
8/1/17-	1/17/18	\$50,000	\$7,526.14	4/17/18	\$50,000	\$7,367.86	
9/30/17	ECF #2259			ECF #2911			
10/1/17-	3/16/18	\$100,000	\$12,391.30	11/9/18	\$100,000	\$11,823.75	
1/31/18	ECF #2718			ECF #4200			
2/1/18-	7/16/18	\$100,000	\$13,157.16	11/9/18	\$100,000	\$12,589.62	
5/31/18	ECF #3521			ECF #4200			
6/1/18-	12/3/18	\$100,000	\$3,136.00	3/14/19	\$100,000	\$3,126.00	
9/30/18	ECF #4393			ECF #5654			
10/1/18-	5/16/19	\$100,000	\$3,235.85	7/23/19	\$100,000	\$2,920.86	
1/31/19	ECF #6982			ECF #8189			
2/1/19-	11/26/19	\$100,000	\$858.88	3/6/20	\$100,000	\$858.88	
5/31/19	ECF #9333			ECF #12157			
6/1/19-	3/13/20	\$100,000	\$2,925	6/1/20	\$100,000	\$2,925	
9/30/19	ECF #12293			ECF #13296			
10/1/19-	4/30/20	\$66,300	\$2,250	12/8/20	\$66,300	\$2,250	
1/31/20	ECF #12992			ECF#15370			
2/1/20-	7/6/20	\$90,500	\$2,769.84	10/26/20	\$90,500	\$2,679.84	
5/31/20	ECF#13557			ECF#14925			
6/1/20-	1/29/21	\$55,950	\$2,835	3/8/21	\$55,950	\$2,835	
9/30/20	ECF#15776			ECF#15971			
10/1/20-	3/17/21	\$30,429	\$720	8/3/21	\$30,429	\$720	
1/31/21	ECF#16094			ECF#17646			
2/1/21-	8/3/21	\$59,250.10	\$1,080	10/4/21	\$59,250.10	\$1,080	
5/31/21	ECF#17654			ECF#18371			
6/1/21-	11/5/21	\$55,405	\$1,530	1/28/22	\$55,405	\$1,530	
9/30/21	ECF#19086			ECF#19937			
10/1/21-		\$20,160	\$1,926.72				
1/31/22							

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Title III

as representative of

No. 17-bk-3283-LTS

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, et al.,

(Jointly Administered)

Debtors.¹

FIFTEENTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF ANDREW WOLFE, MACROECONOMIC CONSULTANT TO THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES, FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1, 2022- MARCH 15, 2022

Andrew Wolfe, macroeconomic consultant to The Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico ("Oversight Board"), as representative of the Debtors under PROMESA section 315(b), submits his fifteenth interim application for allowance of compensation for services rendered from February 1, 2021-March 15, 2022 ("Compensation Period") in the amount of \$4,410 and reimbursement of actual, necessary expenses incurred during such period in the amount of \$535, totaling \$4,945, pursuant to PROMESA sections 316-17, Rule 2016 and P.R. LBR 2016-1, and states:

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¹ The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with the last four digits of their respective Federal Tax ID numbers, are: The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (3481); Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (8474); Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (3808); Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (9686); and Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (3747).

JURISDICTION

1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction to consider this application, pursuant to PROMESA section 306(a). Venue is proper in this district, pursuant to PROMESA section 307(a).

BACKGROUND

- 2. Pursuant to PROMESA section 315(b), the Oversight Board is the representative of each of the above-identified Debtors in its respective Title III case.
- 3. Mr. Wolfe was engaged to provide macroeconomic consulting services in these Title III cases.
- 4. Project Assignment #9 under the Independent Contractor Services Agreement, dated July 1, 2021, which cover Title III services rendered over the year following said date, provides for him to be paid \$300/hour subject to a \$25,000 monthly cap. In addition, the agreement provides for reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the Oversight Board's reimbursement policy.²
- 5. As set forth in the Project Assignment, Mr. Wolfe was engaged to, inter alia, evaluate the macroeconomic framework underlying fiscal plans and make recommendations to the Oversight Board; analyze fiscal projections included in the same; advise on additional policies that could be enacted, including structural reforms; assess debt sustainability; assist the Oversight Board's outside counsel with respect to potential litigation concerning fiscal plans; and advise on monitoring developments under a certified fiscal plan and assist in the monitoring process.
- 6. Prior to his retirement in 2014, Mr. Wolfe was senior manager of the Western Hemisphere Department at the International Monetary Fund for 27 years. He is presently an

² The Agreements and Project Assignment can be viewed at https://oversightboard.pr.gov/documents.

adjunct lecturer at American University in Washington, D.C. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin and a B.S.E. in economics and engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.

BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED

- 7. PROMESA section 316(a) provides that this Court "may award to a professional person employed by ... the Oversight Board (in the Oversight Board's sole discretion) ... (1) reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered by the professional, or attorney and by any paraprofessional employed by any such person; and (2) reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses."
 - 8. Pursuant to subdivision (c):

In determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded to a professional person, the court shall consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including—

- (1) the time spent on such services;
- (2) the rates charged for such services;
- (3) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time at which the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under this chapter;
- (4) whether the services were performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue, or task addressed;
- (5) with respect to a professional person, whether the person is board certified or otherwise has demonstrated skill and experience in the restructuring field; and
- (6) whether the compensation is reasonable based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this title or title 11, United States Code.

- 9. PROMESA section 317 and the interim compensation order [ECF No. 3269] permit professionals to apply for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses on an interim basis.
- 10. Each factor set forth in section 316(c) supports allowance of the compensation sought herein on an interim basis.
- (a) <u>Time spent</u>. Mr. Wolfe spent 14.7 hours working on Title III matters during the Compensation Period. Time detail is annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>.
- (b) <u>Rates charged</u>. As set forth in the Wolfe Certification (defined below), the compensation sought is billed at rates no less favorable than those customarily employed by him.
- (c) Whether Services were necessary or beneficial. The services rendered were necessary to the administration of these Title III cases, and beneficial when rendered.
- (d) <u>Timeliness</u>. The services rendered were performed within a reasonable amount of time, given their complexity and importance to these Title III cases.
- (e) <u>Professional certifications; Restructuring Experience</u>. In addition to holding a Ph.D. in economics, Mr. Wolfe has decades of experience at the IMF, and the macroeconomic expertise sought by the Oversight Board and necessary to the success of these cases.
- 11. During the Compensation Period, Mr. Wolfe incurred reasonable and necessary expenses in connection with his engagement. An itemization is annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit 2</u>.
- 12. The certification required by P.R. LBR 2016-1(a)(4) and statement required by Rule 2016(a) are included in Exhibit 3 hereto ("Wolfe Certification").

13. No monthly fee statement covering the Compensation Period has been served prior to the date hereof.

WHEREFORE, Mr. Wolfe requests an order allowing on an interim basis compensation for services rendered in the Compensation Period in the amount of \$4,410 and reimbursement of expenses incurred in such period in the amount of \$535, totaling \$4,945, and granting such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: July 6, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Andrew Wolfe
Andrew Wolfe
Macroeconomic Consultant to The Financial
Oversight and Management Board

Prepared by:

/s/ Jeffrey Chubak
Jeffrey Chubak
AMINI LLC
131 West 35th Street, 12th Floor
New York, New York 10001
(212) 490-4700
jchubak@aminillc.com
Attorneys for Andrew Wolfe

EXHIBIT 1

Time Detail

\$ 300.00

Timekeeper: Andrew Wolfe Independent Contractor to the FOMB, Adjunct Professor at Rice and American Universities

\$25,000 fee for Monthly Retainer for 1/2-time Work. In February 19 days at 4 hours a day is:

													\$25,000
										Debtor on behalf			
Invoice No.	Matter Name	Date	Timekeeper Name	Position/Title	Hourly Rate H	lours	Project Category	Fee	!S	service rendered	Service Lo	ocation	Task Description
February-21	Title III	2/1/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	2.00	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	600.00	Commonwealth	TX		Update of macro database.
February-21	Title III	2/8/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	2.50	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	750.00	Commonwealth	TX		Preparation for call on labor legislation
February-21	Title III	2/8/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	0.50	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	150.00	Commonwealth	TX		Call with advisors on labor legislation.
February-21	Title III	2/8/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	1.00	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	300.00	Commonwealth	TX		Preliminary work on presentation for the Board Meeting on Friday.
February-21	Title III	2/9/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	0.70	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	210.00	Commonwealth	TX		Call with advisors on PP for Board meeting.
February-21	Title III	2/10/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	1.00	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	\$	300.00	Commonwealth	TX		Review of draft labor law PP for Board meeting.
February-21	Title III	2/10/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	1.00	Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth	Ś	300.00	Commonwealth	TX		Call with CEO on labor legislation.
February-21	Title III	2/28/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Advisor to Board	\$300	6.00	Work with legal teams on Prepa fiscal plan and debt	s:	1.800.00	PREPA	TX		Preliminary analysis for Citibank on macro impact of electricity rate hike
Share of the w Share of the w		icing and mac monwealth FP	monitoring			0.0% 0.0% 59.2% 0.0%	Work with legal teams on Prepa fiscal plan and debt Work with legal teams on Commonwealth debt Business operationsFiscal plan review and updating for the Commonwealth Business operationsFiscal plan development for the Commonwealth Business operationsFiscal plan review and monitoring for Prepa Business operationsFiscal plan review and monitoring for Commonwealth entit	\$	4,410.00 \$1,800.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$2,610.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	Commonwealth PREP <i>8</i>	1 \$	4,410.00 \$2,610.00 \$1,800.00	
Days in Puerto	Rico					0.0	Puerto Rico						

Checks 100.0%

EXHIBIT 2

Expense Itemization

FOMB Economist Andrew Wolfe

									Debtor on behalf	
Invoice No.	Matter Name	Date	Timekeeper who Incurred Expense	Expense Category	Unit (Cost	No. of Units	Total	service rendered	Expense Description
11180	Title III	2/7/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Legal fees	\$	405.00	1	\$405.00	100% Commonwealth	
11154	Title III	1/9/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Legal fees	\$	90.00	1	\$90.00	100% Commonwealth	
2671	Title III	2/28/2022	Andrew Wolfe	Purchase of data	\$	40.00	1	\$40.00	100% Commonwealth	

TOTAL IN FEBRUARY \$535.00

EXHIBIT 3

Certification of Andrew Wolfe

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

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Title III

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO

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CERTIFICATION OF ANDREW WOLFE

Debtors.

- I, Andrew Wolfe, hereby certify:
- 1. I am a macroeconomic consultant to the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico, as representative of the Debtors in these Title III cases, and submit this certification in support of my fifteenth interim fee application.
- 2. I have read the application. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the compensation and reimbursement of expenses sought therein conform with the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the United States Trustee Guidelines, and the Puerto Rico Local Bankruptcy Rules.
- 3. The compensation and reimbursement of expenses requested are billed at rates no less favorable to the Debtors than those customarily employed by me.
- 4. No compensation previously received by me has been shared with any other person, and no agreement or understanding exists between me and any other person for sharing of compensation received or to be received for services rendered in or in connection with these Title III cases.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 6, 2022.